

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 H-02 PA-01 OES-06

NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SMI-01 HEW-04 /060 W

----- 121349

R 211423Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8943

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC 9209

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: 1977-79 EXCHANGE NEGOTIATIONS: EMBASSY COMMENTS RE
SOVIET PROPOSALS IN EDUCATION, ARCHIVAL ACCESS

REF: STATE 218032

1. WHILE EMBASSY ASSUMES DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY DEVELOPED
LIST OF POINTS IN SOVIET DRAFT OF CULTURAL PROGRAM AND
CONDITIONS OF EXCHANGES IN EDUCATION TO WHICH U.S. SIDE
OBJECTS, WISH TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS RE PROGRAM
DRAFT:

A. SECTION I, POINT I.A: EMBASSY SUPPORTS DEPT'S
ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION WITH DETAILED CATEGORIES TO
SOVIET'S FORMULA OF 50 YOUNG SCHOLARS IN ONE CATEGORY.

B. EMBASSY OPPOSES "AT LEAST" FORMULATION CONTAINED
THROUGHOUT ARTICLE ONE.

C. EMBASSY OPPOSES IN ARTICLE 1.D INCLUSION OF LIBRARY
SCIENTISTS IN ARTS EXCHANGE.

D. IN ARTICLE 2, EMBASSY OPPOSES "UP TO TEN" LANGUAGE
FOR LECTURER EXCHANGE.

E. RE ARTICLE 10, EMBASSY DOES NOT WISH TO ENCOURAGE

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EXCHANGE ON TEXTBOOK CONTENT AT THIS TIME. ASSUME

DEPARTMENT AWARE OF POTENTIAL PROBLEMS RAISED BY SUCH AN EXCHANGE.

F. IN SECTION III, EMBASSY OPPOSES EFFORTS TO ROUTE ALL ARCHIVAL REQUESTS THROUGH NATIONAL ARCHIVES TO ARCHIVAL ADMINISTRATION, BUT DOES SUPPORT IDEA OF EXCHANGE OF ARCHIVAL SPECIALISTS.

2. IN REGARD TO CONDITIONS DRAFT, EMBASSY FEELS STIPEND LEVELS INDICATED IN 1.B, C, D ARE EXCESSIVE. INDICATIONS FROM UNACCOMPANIED SCHOLARS ARE THAT CURRENT LEVELS ARE SUFFICIENT AND EVENTHOSE WITH DEPENDENTS SEEM TO BE RECEIVING ADEQUATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT. KEY TO IMPROVING CONDITIONS IS NOT GRANTING LARGER STIPENDS SINCE HAVING MORE MONEY DOES NOT NECESSARILY GUARANTEE ACCESS TO BETTER FOODSTUFFS HERE. EMBASSY'S POLICY OF PROVIDING D-COUPONS TO SCHOLARS WITH CHILDREN IS MORE EFFECTIVE IN THIS REGARD. ALSO, RATHER THAN RAISING RUBLE STIPENDS, IT WOULD BE MORE BENEFICIAL TO GRANTEES AT ALL LEVELS IF MHE WOULD OFFER ASSISTANCE IN AREA OF EXCURSIONS, SPECIFICALLY IN GETTING SPUTNICK TO CHARGE GRANTEES PRICES NORMALLY PAID BY SOVIET YOUNG PEOPLE RATHER THAN RATE APPLICABLE TO YOUNG FOREIGN TOURISTS VISITING USSR ONLY FOR SHORT TIME.

3. FYI: YU. S. KULIK, FOREIGN RELATIONS SPECIALIST AT MHE INFORMED EMBOFF AT RECEPTION GIVEN BY WEST GERMAN CULTURAL ATTACHE THAT HE WOULD BE PARTICIPATING IN WASHINGTON TALKS. HE, SEMYONOV, CHIEF OF CAPITALIST COUNTRIES SECTION OF MHE, AND POPOV, ACTING COUNSELOR OF THE AMERICAN DESK IN CULTURAL DIVISION OF MFA, QUESTIONED DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEIR FIGURE OF 50 IN PARAGRAPH 1.A AND U.S. FIGURE OF 30 IN 1.A. EMBOFF REPLIED TO EACH THAT PARAS B AND C IN AMERICAN DRAFT BROUGHT TOTAL TO 50. ALSO INFORMED KULIK AND SEMYONOV THAT DISTINCTION MADE TO ASSURE THAT YOUNGER SCHOLARS IN DIFFERENT FIELDS PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAM AND THIS LENGTHEN AND BROADEN POSSIBILITIES OF ACHIEVING GOALS OF AGREEMENT.

4.ALEXANDER CHURLIN, FORMER DEPUTY CHIEF CULTURAL DIVISION MFA, LEAVING FOR ASSIGNMENT TO PUBLIC INFORMATION DEPARTMENT AT UNITED NATIONS, INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WOULD PROBABLY PARTICIPATE ALSO. END FYI.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW14855
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760357-0028
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760937/aaaabfsq.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 218032
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1977-79 EXCHANGE NEGOTIATIONS: EMBASSY COMMENTS RE SOVIET PROPOSALS IN EDUCATION, ARCHIVAL ACCESS
TAGS: OEXC, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006